

A stack of three smooth, grey stones is positioned on the left side of the frame. The stones are balanced one on top of the other. They rest on a light-colored sand surface. In the foreground and middle ground, several concentric circles are drawn into the sand, creating a ripple effect that radiates from the base of the stone stack. The background is a soft, out-of-focus expanse of sand.

Heuristics

The Study and Production of Texts
semester II – Isabella Martini – Week 6

Left
brain

I know exactly who I am.

Right brain

I am everything I wanted to be.



Mercedes-Benz
The best or nothing.

Homework for Lesson 6

- Pair/group work – Apply **Step #1 + Step #2** (notice & focus + ranking; the **Method**) on the essay on p.31 of the IELTS Masterclass, and upload your notes on Google Drive.
- Study IELTS essay useful vocabulary: <https://www.ielts-mentor.com/essay-vocabulary>



Heuristics

- Helps discover things to say about what you are studying
- Two broad categories:
 - 1. Observation strategies
 - 2. Interpretive prompts

Five steps

1. Notice and focus + ranking

2. The Method

3. Asking “so what?”

4. Paraphrase

5. Identifying a “go to” sentence

2. The Method

- Working with patterns of repetition and contrast:
 - What repeats?
 - What goes with what? (strands)
 - What is opposed to what? (binaries)
 - What does not fit in? (anomalies)

2. The Method

- Step#1 - list **exact repetitions** and the number of each (words/images) meaning- carrying words
- Step #2 - list repetition of the same/similar kind of words/details (strands); be able to **explain the logic of the strand**
- Step #3 - list details or words that form or suggest **binary oppositions** and select the most important ones, which function as organising contrasts
- Step #4 - choose one repetition/strand/binary/**anomaly** and write a paragraph on **why you think it is important + “so what?”** (10 lines)
- Step #5 - locate **anomalies**, exceptions to the pattern you have found

3. Asking “So What?”

- Pushing observation to conclusion
 - What does the observation imply?
 - Why does the observation matter?
 - Where does this observation get us?
 - How can we begin to theorize the significance of observation?

3. Asking “So What?”

- Observation > So What > Implication
- Implication > So What > Conclusion

4. Paraphrase x (times)

3

- Step #1 – Locate a short key passage (also a sentence, or a phrase, just to begin with)
- Step #2 – Assume you don't understand it completely
- Step #3 – Substitute other concrete language for all key words (produce a parallel version)
- Step #4 – Repeat this 3 times (on the same sentence/phrase; which makes 3 parallel versions)
- Step #5 – Ponder the difference in implication among versions

Homework for Lesson 7

- Pair/group work –
Complete **Step #2** (The Method) + **Step #3** “so what?” + **Step #4** (Paraphrase) on the essay on p.31 of the IELTS Masterclass, and upload your notes on Google Drive.
- Study and work on IELTS Masterclass pp. 29, 30, 31, 32; 41, 42, 43; 77. **Do not write the essays.**

